American Farmer,

AND SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY.

"O Fortunatos nimium sua si bo na norint
"Agricolas." . . . . *Virg.*

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THE AMERICAN FARMER.

EDITED BY JOHN S. SKINNER.

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Tobacco Plants—Our reports from the country are, that plants were never more plenty—There is every prospect of a great abundance, and since the weather has changed, it is favorable in the highest degree. Should it prove to be favorable, and be spared from early frosts, the Corn crop may yet be a fair one.

But let the farmer bear in mind, that under all circumstances, and prospects, rigid economy is a virtue as well as a necessity. A virtue because it leads to and secures that greatest of blessings, independence, and freedom from debt; a necessity, because, with all practicable economy, prices are likely to be so low as to make it difficult to rear a family with credit—secure a liberal education, and make both ends meet—and even if, with a genial season and abundant harvest, a small surplus may be left, that may and probably will be swallowed up by the deficiencies of the year to come.

The Season—the Crops—Until about the middle of May, we had a continued series of cold, rainy weather, which interrupted or entirely excluded all out-door operations of the farmer, and much apprehension was felt for the crops. About that period a change came over the scene, and we had the spring, or rather summer upon us in all its force—This lasted long enough to get the ground prepared and the corn, &c. planted, where this had not before been accomplished, and other matters of the farm and garden attended to, when we were, during the past week, blessed with several refreshing rains, which have caused an entire change in the face of the country in this vicinity, and we may still hope, with the blessing of heaven, to realize medium crops. From Washington county, the great grain-growing district of Maryland, we learn that wheat looks very promising,and the corn is coming on finely—and this is the case in other parts of our state—But we continue to receive doleful accounts from other parts of the country of the unfavorable appearance of all kinds of vegetation. We give the following extracts from letters received at this office, and from other sources, as a sample:

Caswell County, N. C., May 21—"The season thus far has been the most backward one for ploughing and preparing our lands for a crop, that ever occurred in this section of the country. The season is from four to six weeks later than we usually have at the South. It rained incessantly for near 4 months—the land never a week that we could plough or perform any kind of labor on our farms. The corn has come up badly, and what is up, looks worse than I ever saw our crop at this season of the year; and many have ploughed up their fields, and planted their corn crops over. The wheat crops on good land look well, and if the chinch bug or Hessian fly do not attack the wheat crop, I have no doubt it will yield well. The oat crop is more backward, and looks worse than I ever saw the crop at this time of the year; and under the most favorable aspect of things, there cannot be more than a half crop of oats made. Tobacco plants were very promising, (although small,) until about ten days ago—Dry weather has now commenced, and our plants are declining rapidly. It is feared by many good planters, that they cannot pitch their crops in time. With these considerations before me, and under the most favorable state of the season, there is a very gloomy prospect of a crop. It is impossible for our land to yield a full crop, on account of the long continued wet season, and hard beating rains. It is with difficulty that we can plough our corn lands, and in a few days more it will be impossible. If a drought should set in and continue, we shall have the worst apprehensions for a crop of any kind."

Lewisburg, York Co. Pa., May 24—"The season has been unusually backward in our neighborhood: Corn planting is not yet over. The wheat which had been much injured by the cold wet weather, has put on a more promising appearance. Some fields of rye look very bad."

Mississippi.—The last information from Mississippi, brings accounts of great damage to the young crops by rain and hail storms which occurred there the first week in May. Previous to those, drought had prevented the growth of the cotton plants, and there was a general complaint of "bad stands." A letter to the New Orleans Bulletin says:

"On the hills, the soil and the cotton are both washed off to a great extent; and on the lowlands the crops are mostly either drowned out or covered with mud. Such a rain I have never before witnessed. It has extended over the whole country, and materially affected the prospects of the planters." Another writer says—"I have lost ¼ to ⅓ of my crops."

South Carolina.—We have conversed recently with several intelligent planters from the up-country, who all agree in stating that the prospect of the coming crop is a very poor one. The cold weather has prevented them from getting a good stand. In one instance we have learned that an extensive planter had to replant five hundred out of seven hundred acres of his cotton land.—*Colum. (S. C.) paper, May* 15.

Tennessee.—The spring, although presenting no great vicissitudes in the weather, has been rather pleasant upon the whole, yet too cool for advantageous farming or planting. Cotton has done badly, and poor stands have been the result. Corn has suffered much from the worm, which has been more than usually destructive and still continues its ravages, so that replanting has become necessary in most instances. Every thing is later than usual, and the spring decidedly backward. Yet, strange to say, we have had no killing frost, and the prospect of an abundant fruit year was never finer. Strawberries have come into our market, but, as yet, show the want of the maturing power of a warm sun, who for some days, until the last one or two, has been rather chary of his presence; but in his stead abundant cloud and rain, swelling our water courses to some height, the River being at this time high, and we believe still rising. Of the state of small grain crops, we are not advised; but grass looks well and pastures have been fine.—*Nash. Ban. May* 12.

Indiana.—The Wabash (Ia.) Courier of the 22d ult. says: "About a tenth of the corn *early* planted in this country has had to be ploughed up and replanted, owing to the unfavorable state of the weather. We have heard of one instance in which the appearance of the white worm has caused replanting. We also regret to learn that the wheat crop is very thin and unpromising, owing, principally, to unfavorable weather, but, in some instances, to injuries sustained by the cut-worm last fall."

Illinois.—The editor of the Alton Telegraph says, that during the last 9 years he has no recollection of the occurrence of so wet and backward a Spring as the present. Up to the 15th instant, cold bleak rains were of almost daily occurrence there, and fires were necessary for comfort.—He has no apprehension of injury to the spring crops from this state of the weather, as the falls in Illinois are generally so fine, and frosts keep off so long, that abundant time will be afforded for ripening and harvesting. But he does dread the effect of so much wet weather upon the health of the country. With reference to this, he says:

"If we are not greatly mistaken, the Spring of 1826 was in some degree as unfavorable a one as the present, and the result was, that there was an unusual degree of sickness in all parts of the state where our knowledge extended, consisting of fever and ague, and bilious fever; the latter of which was attended with a good deal of fatality."

New York.—The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser says: We do not recollect to have seen vegetation so backward since the spring 1816. On the 20th of May, of that year snow fell in Chenango county, in this State, to the depth of eight inches, and sharp frosts were experienced every month in the year. Corn was carried in wagons from Chautauque county, 250 miles, to Onedia and Madison counties, and thousands of families were compelled to do without bread for five months in the Eastern portion of this State. The cold seasons of '16 and '17 gave the first strong impulse to emigration to Western New York, Pennsylvania, and "way to the Western Reserve," in Ohio. Well, here we are on the far famed shores of Lake Erie, on the 21st day of May, *Anno domini*, 1841, and not a leaf to be seen larger than a mouse's ear!

Consumption of meat—There are few things in the habits of Americans, which strike the foreign observer with more force, than the extravagant consumption of food—and more especially of meat—Truly we may be called a carnivorous people—With all our outcry about hard times, the quantity of provisions consumed in America would support, in health, treble our population in Europe. The vast consumption of *meat* is not only wasteful, but injurious to health, and to activity, of body and mind. The body if made of iron, would be unable to perform all the functions imposed upon it at one time—especially is it, we should suppose, without pretending to any science on the subject, deleterious to eat meat suppers—or to eat a heavy meal immediately preceding any necessary action of body and mind—How well this is proved by the experience of the turf—Suppose a race to be made for a heavy sum, half forfeit, and on going into his stable, the trainer finds that although he is sure that his nag is the better horse, the groom has been bribed to give him a gallon of oats and water at pleasure, would he not *at once* withdraw, and pay forfeit sooner than encounter the certainty of paying the full amount? May it not be averred that one half of the provisions consumed in this country might be saved with certainty of avoiding the numerous diseases that arise from plethora, impaired digestion and disordered blood? Let the heads of any family examine the subject, and they will find that a substitution of bread and vegetables and milk for three-fourths of the *meat* consumed, would be attended with economy and better health.

NATURAL HISTORY—*How soon boys begin to acquire some knowledge of it—How they should be assisted in the acquisition.*

Doctor Johnson was of opinion that we learn more in the first seven years of our existence, than in all our lives after. Every boy, raised in the country, without being sensible of it, lays in a great store of natural history before he enters his "teens." Instead of conning over his neglected lesson on his way to school, you will see him loiter to watch the antics of the trim-built little ground squirrel, with his yellowish white and brown striped jacket, skipping along with his bright black eye and his tail cocked up, going to visit his sweetheart, or perhaps to deposit in some sly snug place for his next meal, some surplus stores after having taken his breakfast. Such is the power of distension in his cheeks, that he can store away in the hollow of them ten or a dozen green peas. The limited haunts, or district, within which squirrels of different kinds breed and inhabit, is matter of curious observation. We never heard, for example, of the ground squirrel passing from Anne Arundel into the adjoining county of Calvert, although there is no natural obstacle to prevent it; nor did we ever hear of the small milk white squirrel, in size between the rat and mouse, and *very red* eyes, being found any where in Maryland except in the immediate neighborhood of *M'Coy's tavern*, on the old turnpike. By the bye, would it not be well to break up these vile rail roads, and go back to the old five-mile-an-hour system, were it only for the sake of the keen appetite and leisurely enjoyment of the substantial meals we used to lay in at M'Coy's and at *old Ross'* on the Washington road? The hot and spongy buckwheat, and the light yellow Virginia cakes, and hot rolls, and biscuit, and fresh butter, and eggs, and sausages, and good old ham, and fat hen turkies! In lieu of these honest bodily comforts, what do we get now—a cold half rotten apple, or a dainty slice of poundcake, is the most you can snatch, and then whiz, whiz, you go, so fast that for the life of you, you can't count the pannels of a fence as you fly along thirty miles an hour!—If you fall asleep in the Old Dominion, you wake up in New York, and this they call *travelling!* But back again to the young student of natural history: Careless and idle as he looks, how many are the items he gathers on the way.—Passing down or across a mill-branch by some leafless old tree, what does he meet there—why he hears something go, whyr-r-r-r-r, and looks up and there he sees a *red-headed-wood-pecker*, digging out his own nest like an honest man, unless like a tyrant robber, "feeling power and forgetting right," he steals his nest from the poor blue bird, as we whipped and drove off the poor Indians from all the fine fishing and hunting grounds on the Chesapeake bay; there he sees him with his sharp bill, beating the reveillé, while he balances and props himself up to his work with his stiff sharp tail, pausing ever and anon, to listen and look round to make sure that some wicked urchin of a school-boy or other enemy is not approaching to hit him with a stone, under cover of the r-r-r-rub-a-dub noise he has been making while "tapping the hollow beech tree."—See the little fellow how he stops to admire the red-white-and-blue dress of this notorious robber of cherry trees. In what bright relief is each color of his gay costume displayed by its lively contrast with the one adjoining it!—No where will you see blue, bluer—white, whiter—or red, redder! Merry Andrew dress. Wonder if it was from your dandy dress, you impudent thief, says the boy, that Johnny Crappeau took the idea of his tricolored flag?—but never mind, you come to our cherry tree next Saturday, and if I don't bring you down with my new bow and arrow; dog my cats if I don't get your young ones out of that hollow for crab-bait. By this time my young gentleman begins to feel that he has dilly dallied on the way, turns up his eye and takes an astronomical or solar observation, and makes his pace schoolward for fear of tasting beech-oil.—Before he gets far, he descries in a tree, or high up in a fence corner, little robin-red-breat sitting on her nest, and softly he approaches in hope of catching her; she, poor bird, sits quietly to the last moment, pretending she don't see him, and in hopes he won't see her, and only quits her maternal charge to escape being acturally clutched. Disappointed in his hopes of the bird, he peeps into the dear little nest, and there he gets indelibly impressed on his mind his *first rudiments of ornithology*; there he learns that this amiable and confiding bird lays so many eggs; he is charmed with their delicate and beautiful shape and color—he notices the sort of place she chooses for her confinement—the materials and the architecture of her chamber—and, what next? Why the natural proclivity of his temperament begins now to show itself. Listen! if you hear the chap as he goes on with quickened step—his basket with his prog and his books on his arm, soliloquising thus:—"Never mind my old lady, when I come along home to-night, I'll rob your nest of those beautiful eggs, and pick holes in each, and blow them out and string them like my sister's beads."—Seize him and examine his brain-box, and according to J. P. Kennedy, and Spurzheim and all other great craniologists, there you'll find just above his ears the "*bump of destructiveness*" monstrously developed. But if the little fellow says to himself, as we once knew a boy to do in a like case—"Never mind poor robin-red-breast, it was your grand mamma that covered with leaves the poor babes in the woods—don't be scared, I won't trouble your eggs—come back and sit on them, and when I come along every morning I'll crumble you some of my pone bread, so that you need not be a minute from your nest."—Feel that boy's pericranium, and you'll be sure, especially if you have been told the facts, to find the *bump of "benevolence"* wonderfully protuberant! Thus it is, that when we suppose these wild and truant boys are learning nothing, and when, because their eyes are not upon their books, the parent scolds, and the master flogs, if you only let them loose in the country, until they are ten years old, they will be *always* learning something! At every step, with every sound, at sight of every flower, and fruit, and bird, they are storing up the names and qualities of new objects; through every greedy sense they are swallowing aliment and elements to be digested into knowledge, by time, comparison, and reflection.

"'Midst gloomy glades, in warbles clear
Wild nature's sweetest notes they hear;
On green untrodden banks they view
The hyacinth's neglected hue:
In their lone haunts, and woodland rounds
They spy the squirrel's airy bounds,
And startle from her ashen spray
Across the glen, the screaming jay;
Each native charm their steps explore
Of solitude's sequester'd store."

The tired reader by this time would fain know what we would be at; let us then make, as the expounders of the good book are wont to say, a "*practical application.*" The ever eager and insatiable curiosity of the child prompts it to be eternally asking questions. Its mental appetite only whetted by what it has seen accidentally and dimly, will only be content with a full knowledge of what it feels is wanting to a thorough understanding of the subject. The foot print of the opossum, or of the 'coon, seen on the branch side, where it has been travelling just before day in search of fish or frogs, creates a desire to master its whole natural history, until in the study of it he stops perplexed to admire the wonderful anomalies in the procreative parts and powers of both these animals. If encouraged in such cases, as every child should be, he naturally appeals to have his thirst for information quenched first to his *parents!* and now we are coming to the point we have been aiming at.—If, unfortunately, they are not prepared to explain, and unfortunately too many of us are not, what is the next and obvious duty? Clearly to have at hand, as every one may at a trifling cost, some elementary works on the different branches of natural history, especially such as are congenial with the feelings and the pastimes and within the comprehension of children. Instead of adopting the books placed in their hands to the state of their minds and nature of their feelings at that age, books which they would snatch at and devour eagerly, they are flogged and forced to read some that by this very association become ever after unwelcome to the sight—books that inspiration only can teach us thoroughly to understand.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Friday, April 8th, 1841.—The Society met pursuant to a call from the Board of Managers. In the absence of the President, WALTER W. W. BOWIE, Esq, one of the Vice Presidents, was called to the Chair; and after stating the objects of the Society the following resolution, offered by R. Bowie, Esq., was unanimosly adopted:

Resolved, That the Planters and Farmers of the adjoining Counties of Charles, St. Mary's, Calvert, Anne Arundel and Montgomery be respectfully requested to cooperate with the Members of this Society in furtherance of the proposed objects of the same.

On motion of R. Bowie, Esq. it was unanimously resolved that JOHN S. SKINNER, Editor of the American Farmer, be and he is hereby elected an honorary Member of this Society.

R. Ghiselin, Esq. submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the American Farmer and Marlboro' Gazette.

The Constitution of the Society was then read for the information of Members present, and all desirous to become Members; and after the adoption of an order that the Constitution be printed for the use of the Members: The Society, on motion, adjourned.

W. W. W. BOWIE, Prest. pro. tem.
T. F. BOWIE, Corresponding Sec'y.

CULTURE OF FRTIT TREES.

We are told of a young plum tree in the neighborhood of Boston, [Prince's Imperial Gage,] which bears abundantly every year, the fruit of which, in a single season, has been sold for fifty dollars; and wagon loads of peaches have been retailed in this town, the two past seasons, at from one to three cents a piece.

The importance of selecting the best varieties of fruit for cultivation, is not usually sufficiently appreciated. What is the inducements for setting trees of ordinary or indifferent kinds, when those which are really superior can be had for a trifling addition to the expense? For instance, the plum tree, above named, cost, probably fifty cents to a dollar, and if some other kind had been set in its stead, it might have stood till now without ever bearing a single dollar's worth of fruit. And, at the very time that good peaches were retailing in our market for the prices above mentioned, the poor common kind might be bought at from fifty cents to a dollar a bushel. Peach trees of the best varieties may be had at the nurseries for two shillings apiece. Such trees, if set this Spring, in suitable situations, will probably bear fruit enough eighteen months from this time, to more than pay the cost with the expense of cultivation, and will then be just in the best state for future bearing.

Many are deterred from attempting to raise good fruit by the length of time which it takes to get trees in bearing. This objection does not apply to peaches, nor does it, to some of the best kind of plums, which bear freely when quite young. Pears and apples, too, may be very soon brought into bearing, if early bearing kinds are selected and proper attention is paid to them. It used to be thought that pears could not obtain short of ten or fifteen years after setting the tree, but it is now very common to get fruit from them the second year after setting, even when the trees are quite young. We set a few trees, one year since, which were but two years growth from the ground, and they now have flower buds, and we hope to get fruit from them the present season. There are some of our neighbors, who, last year, had pears on trees which were less than five feet high. We esteem the kinds that bear young, which have been brought into notice, within a few years past, a great acquisition to the public, and one which, as it becomes more known, will be better appreciated than it has yet been. Such may be yielding their luscious fruit, while the more tardy varieties are acquiring a sufficient size and maturity to bear.

The various kinds of winter pears, some of which are as fine for eating as any of the fall varieties, while others are valuable only for cooking, are all desirable, especially in situations where fruit that ripens on the trees is exposed to the depredations of mischievous boys of either a larger or smaller growth.—*Worcester Spy.*

COOKED FOOD FOR SWINE.—*Mr. Seldon*, of *Mass.*, stated in a recent agricultural meeting in Boston, that from a *bushel* of cooked meal, he had obtained 12 lbs. of pork, while the same quantity of uncooked meal would not give more than 8 lbs. of pork. It has long been our opinion, that there was a difference of about one-third in favor of cooked, or fermented food, over raw, and we are more than satisfied the cheapest plan to make pork is to feed hogs as much as they can eat all the time.

To cure scratches on a horse, wash the legs with warm strong soap suds, and then with beef brine. Two applications will cure the worst case.

A lump of pearlash, crowded into the pipe of a poll-evil or thistleows, two or three times, will cure this reported incurable disease.

ROOT CROPS.—Mr. Asa Barton, in the Maine Farmer, gives the following as his experience in raising roots:

I wish to call the attention of farmers to the importance of raising root crops, for feeding cattle and sheep. I have tried it for three years past, and find I can winter neat cattle, as well as horses and sheep, upon straw, with plenty of potatoes, ruta baga, &c. as upon the best English hay, without them.—And in fact, as to sheep, much better. The past winter has been a "hard one" for sheep, as the snow covered the ground early in November, and continued, with the exception of two or three days, six months; and our sheep now look quite well, and are in much better condition than any in this vicinity, which have not been supplied with roots during the winter, although fed plentifully with good hay.

For three winters past, I have kept our stock upon straw, with roots, until about the middle of March without any hay. I gave the cattle potatoes or turnips twice a week, and to the sheep three times a week, using with the former, one-fourth of a bushel to each creature, and with the latter, one quart to each.

I am certain, from my own experience in farming, that either potatoes or ruta bagas may be raised much easier, as well as cheaper, than hay, and especially the latter, which have never exceeded in cost to us, in the cellar, six cents per bushel, and one year but *four and a half* cents, whereas our potatoes have cost us on the average *twelve* cents per bushel in the cellar.

By raising roots for stock, we can keep much more, and also in better condition, upon the same farm, and with much less labor. It has been my policy, since I commenced farming operations, to do as little work as possible for a given amount of income, (for I am not fond of work as you know) or in other words, secure the greatest crop with the least labor, and by raising roots for our stock, we may increase it very much, and it takes but little land to raise even a thousand bushels of roots, if properly managed. We may as well raise five or six hundred bushels to the acre as less, and with only one and one half acre of land rightly prepared, we may raise upon it at least one thousand bushels of potatoes and ruta bagas, or sugar beets, and with that quantity of roots with straw, which if we raise grain we shall always have, we can winter stock even in Penobscot county so as to look well in the spring. I am aware that many farmers are opposed to raising roots for cattle, especially turnips, as "it is such a job to weed them."—To be sure, it is some considerable labor to take care of half an acre of ruta baga, or at least to weed them the first time, but after that is accomplished it requires but little, if any more labor afterwards, than the same ground planted with potatoes; and the yield will be at least double, and perhaps more. And I am confident that a bushel of ruta bagas are worth more than a bushel of potatoes for cattle, horses, or sheep; with hogs I never tried them.

I have found that on the kind of ground in this town, which is slate stone, ruta bagas grow best upon land which has produced corn the previous year; for this purpose, I plough up a piece of ground, manure it highly, and plant it with corn. The next year plough it early and let it lay until about the 25th of May, during which time, most of the seeds in the ground will germinate, then harrow plough, and plough again, so as to get the soil well pulverized—turn two furrows together with a horse and plough so as to have the drills about two feet and a half apart, sow, so as to have them come about four or five inches apart, and cover them one inch deep, on the first weeding thin them to about six or eight inchest, and on the second to ten or twelve, and in this way I have never failed of raising a fair crop.

PLANTING CHESNUTS.—A correspondent having asked advice of friend Snow of the Detroit Farmer, relative to the manner of planting Chesnuts, the following has been furnished, and the hint may be acceptable nearer home:

Chesnuts are usually ripe in October, and should be kept spread out until the middle of November, when they will become dry. Sow early in the spring. A bushel of good seed is sufficient for a bed 75 feet long and 4 feet wide. The covering should be about two inches in thickness. After one year in a seed bed, transplant them into lines 18 inches apart, and 6 inches distant from each other. When three years old to be planted in the field. It will grow wherever the roots can spread freely; but a rich, sandy loam is preferable.

An acre planted 4 feet apart each way, will contain over 2700 trees. These, in about 18 years, will furnish, probably, 7 rails each, or 19,000 rails, or equal to 1000 a year, which will then be worth $40 a thousand; but say only 30, and deduct even $10 for cutting, it will leave, at the least, a net return of $20 a year for the value of the timber on an acre. Suppose you wish to sell your farm in five years, the timber already growing upon it, would add hundreds of dollars to its value.

VIRGINIA.—From the review of the Lynchburg market, by Messrs. Holcombe & Otey, in the Virginian, we extract the following:—"To the cultivators of the soil in this part of Virginia we submit the following suggestions: Our best and most beautiful lands have been cut down, worked and worn out, and then deserted for the South or far West. It is a fact, and we record it with pleasure, that there are some planters and farmers, who, with the aid of Clover and Plaster, have enriched their lands, and rendered them highly productive. We know some farms, which, a few years since, produced only one to two barrels of corn to the acre, that now yield 8 to 10. The same ground produced only six bushels of wheat, now yield 20 to 25. And this has been done when plaster cost from $12 to 20 per ton. The uncertainty of the wheat crop for past years makes it prudent, that the agriculturist should raise a mixed crop of wheat and tobacco. The time for planting tobacco is at hand; no land should be planted but the richest lots, the richest flats, and the new land that is annually cleared. Plant early; never under any circumstances top over eight leaves; and never cut tobacco until it is thoroughly ripe. The great error of the upper country and South, is, that nineteen out of twenty planters cut their tobacco unripe. Hard firing is another common error, and ought to be avoided. Some fire is necessary for all tobacco that is exported; but many planters fire their tobacco until the oil is removed and the leaf made stiff and starky.

The completion of the James River Canal to Lynchburg, has opened a new era, and will operate favorably to the agricultural interest of this part of the State. We now procure plaister at $8 per ton, which will soon be reduced to $6 or $6 50. The time is propitious for improvement, and nothing will prevent it, but the want of enterprize and industry on the part of the sons of the Old Dominion. Our tobacco will be superseded by that of the West, unless we abandon its culture in poor land and raise such as will compete with any exported. This can be done; for we have soil, climate and seasons not surpassed by any State in the Union. The science of Agriculture should be studied both in theory and practice, it being the foundation of national wealth and prosperity. No pursuit, says the Father of his Country, is better calculated to promote independence, health, virtuous habits and a peaceful contented mind. The visionary dreams of wealth, by emigration to the South and West, we are happy to state, are rapidly passing away, and a better day is dawning upon our beloved Virginia. Look upon the mass of the whole earth, and no country can be found where nature has been so bountiful in her provisions; but truth requires us to add, where man has done so little towards appropriating them to his use.

PLASTER OF PARIS.

Messrs. Editors—You will confer a favor on a subscriber to your valuable paper by giving the following article an insertion, designed to stimulate the farmer to further experiment on the value of plaster of paris to the different grasses, grains, and roots cultivated.

I noticed an article in one of your papers in April last, in contradiction of one I submitted to the public in March, showing the beneficial effects of plaster of paris on wheat, —'A Washington County Farmer.' It was on the effect of plaster on wheat especially. I am aware that farmers generally have abandoned the use of plaster on wheat. Economy I know to be the leading cause. I consider it false economy. If the application is made at the proper season of the year, it will be successful. Nine tenths of the farmers have been in the habit of sowing it on their wheat when they sow it on their clover in the month of April—hence bad effects may follow of late ripening, &c. If applied the last of February or first week in March, the desired effect is produced of stimulating the growth of the plant, making it strong and vigorous, so as to escape the ravages of the fly—Instead of the isolated and acknowledged case that 'A Washington County Farmer' admits, it was beneficial to, and of producing a good crop on poor land, general good will be the result.

"A Washington County Farmer" must be an old Farmer,—by his saying at the conclusion of his article, his design in penning it was to save young Farmers from the unnecessary expense of purchasing plaster and sowing it over their wheat fields—at this point I would remark that our old farmers are far behind the present age in the improvement of their soils.—It therefore devolves upon the young to make the necessary experiments, having less to cultivate than their fathers—The English, Scotch and Irish farmers have studied the science well and reduced farming to a mathematical certainty (seasons being favorable) of producing 40, 50 and 60 bushels of wheat per acre. To produce this result they have studied well the application of manures, comprising barn yaid, liming, ashes and other matters, and using the cheap top dressing of fine ground plaster paris, which we do not term a manure, but a stimulant to the growth of the plant to which it is applied.

The reason why plaster is more generally sown on clover is the extraordinary growth produced by its effects. The clover being turned under when in bloom, is regarded as a regular layer of manure; hence it is second to the artificial means of manuring. As the time is passed by for experiment on wheat for the present season, I would suggest that the trial be made on the oat crop, it now being the proper time to test the matter fairly. Leave half the field not plastered—the difference in yield will be the proof—where plaster has been in general use about one ton to each 35 acres is the proper quantum.

It acts well on corn and potatoes by the addition to one bushel of plaster three bushels of slacked ashes, and putting two to three bushels of the mixture on the acre. It is preferable to put it on the corn or potato in the hill when planted, or immediately after they vegetate.

My design is to aid in stimulating our agriculturists to renewed efforts in enriching the soil, which will be for the general good of mankind. J. MEIXSEL.

—*Baltimore American.*

RAISING HEMP.—The cultivation of Hemp is exciting considerable interest in Maine at present. The soil is said to be admirably adapted to its cultivation, and its importance is such as to justify renewed and still more strenuous exertions. For nearly all the canvas and cordage used in both the Government and merchant vessels—vast as is the quantity used—is derived almost entirely from the North of Europe. Of course, in the event of any accident to the foreign crop, or any interruption of peaceable relations, this supply is entirely cut off. When well cured, too, it is said that our manufacturers uniformly prefer American to Russia hemp. For the ten years preceding October, 1838, the annual average of 4,382 tons of hemp has been imported to be used almost entirely in manufactures. Encouragement to its growth has for some time been given by the General Government by granting favorable contracts, but without good success. During the last year, however, they have given contracts to the extent of 400 tons avoirdupois, promising $400 per ton for it, delivered at the Navy Yards. The quality, however, has been inferior, containing generally about 50 per cent. of *tow* and full 9 per cent. of waste. It is said that an acre of good land well sown will produce from 500 to 800 pounds of clear hemp, worth upon an average in our market $250 per ton.

PROPER SEASON FOR CUTTING GRAIN.—It is a good practice to cut every kind of grain rather before it is fully ripe in the grain or the straw. In a fine season, some farmers cut their crops when they find the neck of the straw immediately under the ear, free of juice when twisted round between the finger and thumb, and do not wait until the lower part of the stems are dry and yellow, because they find in such a season the straw to die from the ear downwards. In a bad season, on the other hand, the lower part of the stem first becomes yellow and dry; after which, of course, the crop is not allowed to stand, for in such a season the ear never becomes mature, having less absorptive power, whilst the vitality of the root is early destroyed by the combined effects of bad weather and an ungenial state of the soil.—*Quar. Jour. Ag.*

Cherries were introduced from Pontus in Asia by Lucullus, and displayed by him with great pomp in his triumph over Mithridates, about the year 680 of the building of Rome. About 120 years afterwards, Pliny says, they were introduced into Britain.—*Sotheby.*

From the American.

British Corn Laws.

The intelligence by the Caledonia, that the British Ministry intend to propose a modification of the Corn Laws is the most important item of news that has lately come to us from abroad. The proposition is to substitute in place of the present fluctuating scale a moderate duty on the importation of foreign corn. The announcement of this intention was received, as might have been expected, with exultation by one party, and with deep murmurs of indignation by the other.

If the motion of the Ministers prevails, a greater change will be wrought in the British Constitution than was effected by the passage of the Reform Bill. The landed interest of the Kingdom on which the aristocracy is based, must receive a blow, the consequences of which may be fatal to its continued supremacy. The real struggle between the people and the aristocracy of England never came until now; for in the Corn Law system the whole question is involved. It is a system created and sustained for the benefit of landed proprietors, and it tends to bring millions of laboring men to the verge of starvation, for the sake of keeping up high prices for corn that the purses of the nobility and gentry may be well filled.

It is plain, therefore, that all questions of reform and conservatism—all disputes between the friends of liberty on the one hand, and the advocates of privilege on the other—all notions, ideas, theories of social and political progress or finality which divide parties in England—must be concentrated and brought to an ultimatum in this great *practical* issue which comes directly home to the vital interests of all classes. The result of an overthrow of the Corn Law monopoly will not terminate in giving the laboring people of England bread in greater plenty—for if that were all, no aristocracy could be so selfish as to object to the change. But with a reduction in the price of corn, every landed proprietor will find his rent roll shrinking like a punctured bladder or a split balloon; and with the loss of wealth will go power, influence and supremacy.

For years the popular leaders in Great Britain have been urging on the repeal of the Corn Laws. Every means short of actual rebellion—and even that was partially resorted to—have been tried to shake down the strong citadel of monopoly. Petitions, remonstrances, threatenings, mass meetings, agitations—the power of the press and the stirring appeals of orators—the outcry of multitudes suffering for bread—the voice of reason and the exclamations of passion—have not ceased to plead at the footstool of power for some amelioration of a system which grew more oppressive the longer it was endured.

The concessions long demanded and long refused are now about to be made. Yet what an illustration is hereby exhibited of the honesty of politicians! It was not many months ago that Lord Melbourne declared the Corn Law question to be one that must not be meddled with. Whence so sudden a change of mind? The mystery may be explained perhaps by the fact that Sir Robert Peel intimated lately his willingness to admit the question and to modify the system, if he should come into power. This intimation coupled with the recent defeat of the Ministry, has probably induced the cabinet to change ground in order to keep their places. The concessions about to be made are not yielded from convictions of justice, or from a regard to the national interest, or from sympathy with an oppressed people—but from that sincere love of office and power which so eminently distinguishes the ordinary run of patriots in this our day.

The proposed modification of the British Corn Laws is a matter of much interest to the United States. It is now highly important that we should have an able man at the Court of St. James, since the occasion seems to be altogether favorable for the establishment of new commercial relations between this country and Great Britain. We can supply the British market with breadstuffs to any extent, and it will be to the interest of England to purchase from us rather than from Continental Europe—because in the former case she would not have to make payment in specie. A trade mutually advantageous to the two countries might now be opened, which would do more to strengthen friendly relations and promote a good understanding between them than any expedient which diplomacy would suggest for a twelvemonth.

On the Culture of Wheat.

Experience has shown both in this country and Great Britain, that it is of little advantage to procure the best seed wheat from the south of Europe, or elsewhere, and attempt to perpetuate its excellence in a soil that lacks its appropriate stimulus and nourishment. Thus dealt with, the choicest varieties soon deteriorate, and often sink below the accumulated and more hardy species, long cultivated in the country. Nor is it enough to replenish the exhausted vegetable mould by the application of vegetable manures. These are indeed necessary to the luxuriant growth of the wheat plant; but the perfection of its seed requires the sweetening influence, and the warm and quickening energy of some one of the active alkalis. Col. Le Couteur, of Jersey Island, has made many experiments with lime, potassa and soda, with nearly equal success. He recommends sowing 50 bushels of slacked lime, or 75 of the ashes of wood or sea weeds to the acre. This is ploughed in about a month before the wheat is sown, and buried five inches deep. The first good effect of this caustic alkali is, to drive all the worms and grubs to the surface, where they either die or are picked up by birds. It also corrects any acidity in the soil, from an excess of decomposing vegetable matter, warms it, and forms a fit bed for the germination of the kernel and growth of the young plant. Manures should be applied to the previous crop, and well incorporated with the soil, as their direct application excites a rank, unnatural growth of straw, which is blighting to every berry.

Col. Le Couteur washes his seed wheat several times in clean water, to remove smut and the seeds of any parastic plants; he then soaks it twelve hours in strong brine, and rolls it in air slacked lime to destroy the larvæ insects. He objects to ploughing in the seed, from the circumstance that it buries it at unequal depths, making a difference in the time of its coming up and ripening. He plants it three or four inches deep by a drilling machine, which makes the rows seven inches apart, and drops a seed once in four inches, in each row. The field is kept clear of weeds by the use of the hoe. We ask our readers to note the following account of the expense and profit attending the culture of a single acre, among the many given in his "Prize Essay."

CROP.

	£.	s.	d.
48 bushels, at 8s. per bushel,	19	4	0
4 do Tailings, at 5s.	1	0	0
Straw, 48¾ cwt. at 1s. the cwt.	2	8	9
	22	12	9

CHARGES.

Rent of land per acre,	5	12	6
Nine quarts of ashes,	2	5	0
Tithe,	0	8	6
One plowing for crop,	0	8	0
Half tillage and dressing on potatoes	2	0	0
Seed, 8s. per bushel,	1	0	0
Sowing,	0	2	0
Bush harrowing and rolling,	0	1	0
One hoeing,	0	5	0
Reaping,	1	8	0
Cartage, stacking and threshing,	0	15	0
Interest on capital,	0	10	0
	13	14	6
	22	12	9
Profit,	8	18	3

Here is a profit of nearly forty dollars on a single acre of wheat, after paying some twenty-five dollars ground rent! It will be seen that the wheat crop is charged two pounds or nine dollars, for manure and culture applied to the potatoe crop which had preceded it. We must not, however, pass over the fact, that eight English shillings a bushel is just four times the present value of wheat at the centre of Ohio, the greatest wheat growing State in the Union. Remove the duty on American flour, and the price of English wheat must fall to 5s. a bushel. It is obvious, that this would cut down the value of the wheat lands of Great Britain, hundreds of millions of dollars. Col. Le Couteur estimates the annual wheat crop of Great Britain at five millions of acres. To grow this, at least ten millions of acres are required, as no land will bear cropping with wheat every year. Let us suppose that these ten millions of acres pay a ground rent not of £5. 18s. 6d. but of only $10; and are worth a sum of which $10 is the interest at five per cent., or $200 an acre. The aggregate value of these wheat lands then, is no less than 2000 millions of dollars, and pay an annual rent of 100 millions of dollars. If this land yields thirty bushels to the acre, and by a repeal of the Corn laws of England, each bushel of wheat is reduced only fifty cents in value, it consumes not only all the ground rent of the landlord, but takes five dollars of the profits of the farmer. Five dollars an acre, is more that the average profits of the cultivators of British soil, after paying rent, taxes, and all contingent expenses.

Hence there is perfect truth in the remark, that to repeal the Corn laws of England, would be to render nearly valueless landed estates which now pay an annual income of *one hundred millions of dollars*. Hence, too, we conclude that the duty on foreign bread stuffs will not be removed in Great Britain, and that the farmers of the United States, *must* provide an independent and reliable home market, for the fruits of their industry.—*Buff. Com. Advertiser.*

Clay Mixture on Sandy lands.—A correspondent of the Western Farmer, gives the following as his experience of the value of mixed clay with sandy soil:—"Several years since, when a resident of New England, I purchased a piece of dry sandy land, denominated there, 'pine plains,' that had been very much worn. A portion of it, about 1¾ acres, was on the verge of a deep ravine, and a little more elevated than the remainder of the lot. This piece had been sown the fall previous to rye, and stocked with clover. The rye was harvested—an inferior crop—and the ground, I found in the fall, was not to appearance, more than half stocked. Not having manure for a spring crop, and clay being handy, I carted on to the piece about thirty ox-cart loads of clay; this, however, was not pure, but supposed to contain about one-third sand; the same was spread upon the surface of the ground in the fall. In the spring it had formed a complete coating over the whole surface; the result was, a heavy crop of clover. The next spring about twenty loads of yard manure was spread upon it. It was then broken up, rolled, harrowed and planted to corn, about the 10th of May. The result was, about *ninety bushels of sound corn*. I had corn enough for my own use and sold about fifty bushels for fifty dollars. This was my first experiment in farming. It is nearly eight years since the clay was applied, and I am told, the ground is still benefitted by it. The application was continued on other portions of the lot with equally beneficial results as long as I occupied it."

Draining.—A correspondent of the Albany Cultivator, after remarking upon the expensive modes of draining adopted in England, proceeds as follows:

There is much, however, we can do in this matter, and at a trifling expenditure of manual labor. And here I will mention one mode of underdraining, probably of Yankee invention, as I have never seen a description of it. It is performed in heavy clay lands, where ditches are most required, by excavating a trench, say of 12 inches wide, with perpendicular and parallel sides, to the depth of 12 in.; or if it is contemplated to use a subsoil plough, to the depth of 16 inches, then from the centre of the bottom a sub-ditch is excavated, of 5 to 6 inches square. The sod taken off the entire width from the top is then inverted and placed at the bottom of the upper ditch, and becomes a durable cover filled to the top, thus doing away with the large expense of tiles or stones.

Our system must essentially combine economy with utility, and this can be effected to a very great extent in surface drains. These should exist wherever water remains on the ground after rains, or when it is too much saturated with springs in the vicinity. No stagnant water should ever be allowed in a civilized country, for besides its effectual hostilities to all useful vegetation, it poisons the atmosphere and becomes the prolific source of half our diseases and deaths. If a systematic course be pursued in all the operations of the farm, much draining may be effected with scrcely any additional trouble and expense. For instance, all clay and flat lands should be ploughed into narrow ridges, and every successive plough ing should be directed to make the more elevated portions higher, and the depressed ones still lower, always preserving an outlet, that the water accumulated in the last shall be carried off freely, and by this means the whole surface becomes a succession of surface drains without the expenditure of a day's labor to an acre. In many instances, however, main ditches will require to be cut for a considerable distance, to get sufficient depth and slope

to carry off the water rapidly, and when the principal drain is made, the tributaries can be completed at a trifling expense, either with the plough and hoe or the spade. To illustrate my meaning, I will describe the manner of draining a piece of land I recently adopted. The lot consists of a stiff clay, running back from the Niagara river, with a gradual ascent of not more than five or six feet for a mile. It is traversed through the whole distance with irregular undulations, but the ridges almost universally running parallel with the river. At right angles with the river and across these, I run a ditch four feet wide at the top, two feet at the bottom, and from one to three and a half feet deep, so as to preserve a uniform descent on the bottom, thus cutting transversely all these logitudinal ponds, for they are nothing else in ordinary wet season, and a little additional work with the spade or plough, effectually carries off all the surface water. The whole expense of this does not exceed one dollar per acre. Now let us see the profits of this operation. If this land be worth $60 per acre, to cultivate in its original condition, and much of it had been sold at higher prices, and one fourth of it was covered with water, which was generally the case to a sufficient extent to prevent the growth of nutritious vegetation, by expending one dollar I increased the productive land by the addition of another third to the original amount, which is equivalent to increasing the value of the investment one third of $60, which gives me $20 gain for $1 expended.

I have seen an acre of marsh ground with rushes and cat-tails, that could be drained by one man's labor in two hours, and when done, it would be worth any two acres on the farm, and yet to this moment it has not got into the brain of the owner or a dozen of his intellectual predecessors, that this could or ought to be done; and it may be the cause of half the diseases in the neighborhood for two centuries! These men have never been troubled with *book-farming*; nor did they ever take the Cultivator: from such noddles, and such only, are we ever to look for hostility to either.

Horticultuhal Items.

Peach Trees.—We should judge that the easiest way to destroy the *peach-worm*, is by scalding; but this remedy would be useless in most cases, against the *borer*, on account of his *ascending* progress, and his position in the interior of the tree. We have destroyed them in considerable numbers by means of a barbed wire, but the operation is often tedious from the crookedness of their holes. We have therefore for two years past, endeavored to exclude them from one of their favorite trees (a mountain ash) by coating the bark to the height of three feet with *tar;* and by rolling a newspaper round it, to protect it from the weather, tied in three or four places; and the plan has succeeded completely.—*New Genesee Farmer.*

Culture of Asparagus.—A bed, five feet by twenty, will contain 100 roots, and is large enough for a moderate sized family. If good two years old roots are used, they will bear some cutting the next year after planting. If there is any choice, select a warm location, where the soil is deep and rich, neither wet nor dry; mark out the boundaries of the bed, and dig out the earth to the depth of eighteen inches. (If the location is rather wet, and the bottom hard, dig six inches deeper, and put in six inches of oyster shells or loose stones.) If the top soil is good, lay it on one side, but wheel the poor earth away. Then take well rotted manure and mix it with an equal portion of good earth, and fill up the bed even with the surface; then rake it smooth, and place the roots on the top of the ground, twelve inches apart; spread the fibres, and fix them in their natural position with the hand; then cover the whole with three or four inches of the mixed compost, smooth it off neatly, and the work is finished.

Water the bed after planting, if dry weather succeeds, and keep it clear of weeds during summer. Before setting in of winter, cut off the stalks, and give an annual dressing of two or three inches of manure. The roughest of this should be raked off in the spring, and the surface of the bed loosened with a manure fork.—*Ibid.*

Rhubarb, or Pie Plant.—It is of the easiest possible culture. Plant the roots about three feet apart, in deep rich soil, well manured. A warm border on the south side of a fence, is the best place. The Early Red variety grows the quickest, and in using requires the least sugar. One dozen roots is sufficient for a family.—*Ibid.*

Excrescences on Plum Trees.—Those worms which feed on the best juices of the tree and load it with deformity, are utterly helpless, and live entirely through our forbearance or neglect. No work is more easy than to destroy them, if we go about it in the right way. Let every man that owns a plum tree and wishes to preserve it, cut off every branch on which these excresences are found, and burn them to prevent the possibility of the insects escaping. We do not expect however, that worms will be found in these old habitations at this season—the perfect insect escaped from them last season; but eggs were most probably deposited again in the same branches; and our obje ct is to have the young worms destroyed. On receipt of this, begin to watch for new nests, as they will probably appear soon after the tree comes into full leaf. Let the search be thorough, cut them off and burn them without delay, and there will be but few to disterb the tree next year.—*Ibid.*

Destruction of Caterpillars.—Our readers are reminded that this worm should be attended to in season, and when this is done, the labor of extirpation will be trifling. Close attention to clear the limbs for one or two years will entirely rid an orchard of the nuisance. One easy mode of destruction is to apply strong soap suds to the nest—if the tree is large a swab tied to the end of a pole will accomplish the purpose effectually. Suds which have been used by the wash woman are as good as any, and by rubbing a swab on the nest—after it has been dipped into the suds—the worms are quickly destroyed.—*Maine Cultivator.*

Fruit Trees.—To save Fruit and Shade Trees from the ravages of the Canker Worms, take one gallon of cheap Whale Oil, 1 lb. flour of Sulphur, 12 oz. Sal Ammoniac, and 1 lb. Chloride of Lime. Let the Sal Ammoniac and Lime be made fine, so that all parts may mix together.—Take some old or cheap woollen cloth, (about nine inches wide, and in length according to the size of the tree,) and tie it round about the middle so as to encircle the tree, letting the upper part of the cloth hang over like the collar of a coat, so as to form a curve for the millers to run into. The cloth may be dipped in the mixture, or it may be spread on with a paint brush, and it may be well to renew it once or twice a week till the millers have done flying. This was tried last season, after the worms were fully grown. Being shaken from the trees, they attempted to ascend, and would die in two minutes after they came in contact with the above ingredients.—*Farmers' Gaz.*

Attention to Fruit Trees.—It will injure all kinds of fruit trees to permit sprouts to grow from the roots, or branches from the lower part of the body. When the buds or branches appear where they ought not, do not wait till they get big enough to cut them off with the knife, but pinch them off with the fingers, and the wound will heal over in a short time. Many contend, with a good deal of reason, that the latter part of spring and first of the summer is the most suitable season for pruning.—At this season, the growth is rapid, and it is probable the scars heal quicker, and with less injury to the parent stock, than at any other time. Trees in grass ground, or where the land is not cultivrted, will be benefitted by digging about the roots, to admit the rain and atmospheric influence. Pendent and awkward branches should be taken off so soon as discovered. As the young fruit grows, some of it will be apt to fall from the trees, but if the hogs were let in every week, they will devour it, and by this means many hurtful insects will be destroyed.—*Ten. Agriculturist.*

Food of Plants.—A correspondent of the New England Farmer, reports the case of a turnip beet and carrot growing and flourishing finely in pure water. Is this not demonstration that water is the chief, or at least an important agent in the growth of plants. When the vegetable economy is well understood, it will be found that water and air are the producers of almost every thing that grows. Some soils retain moisture better than others, and admit a freer action of the atmosphere, and therefore are better than others.—*Ibid.*

The Cross Pear.—In the last number of the Magazine of Horticulture, there is an account of this new variety of the pear, with an outline and description of the fruit, by the editor of that journal. It is supposed to have originated in Newburyport; and bears the name of the proprietor of the garden where it was discovered about fifteen years ago. Our friend R. Manning, whose judgment will not be disputed, has pronounced it without hesitation, "a most excellent fruit;" and the editor says, "The beauty of this pear, together with its abundant and constant bearing, and its melting flesh and perfumed flavor, render it a desirable variety in collections, and one which will rank with the Cushing, Seckel, and others of our finest American kinds."

We copy his description of the fruit:

"*Fruit* medium size, roundish, 2½ inches in length, and 2¼ inches in diameter. *Stalk* three-quarters of an inch long, and very thick, inserted in a slight cavity. *Eye* small, and considerably depressed. *Skin* smooth, deep yellow, red on the sunny side, very russety round the eye, covered all over with russety dots, and sprinkled with small black spots. *Flesh* melting, juicy, and sweet, with a perfumed and agreeable flavor. In eating in December, sometimes earlier, (in November,) and occasionally keeping till February."

It is a singular circumstance that many seeds lie dormant in the earth till brought forward by a particular cultivation or manure. It is known that silicious sand, limestone gravel, and other calcareous manures, have brought to light the finest carpets of white clover. Poppy seeds have also been known to lie dormant for many years.—See Tull's Horse-hoeing Husbandry.—*Stawell.*

Harsh and wild fruit is changed by transplantation; an improved soil and culture operate slowly, and in successive generations only, each becoming a little better than its parent, and it is by long culture and selection only that highly improved varieties of fruit can be produced.—*T. A. Knight.*

Cuttings taken from the extremities of the bearing branches of all trees which have attained their middle age, or are becoming old, from the period when the tree, or the first tree of that variety, sprung from seed, afford plants which readily produce fruit, but soon decay: this circumstance was known to the ancients; it is noticed by Columella, cap. 3 de Arboribus.—*Ibid.*

Fruits.—The use of ripe fruits is admirably adapted to allay the feverish irritations of the stomach and bowels at the seasons when they severally come to maturity; but unripe fruits, or those in the incipient stages of decay, are calculated to increase these excitements, and to generate disease. Fruits should always become ripe in their own natural way, and eaten when they are in their higest perfection.

Preparation of Cions.—From some experiments made last spring by Mr. Newton, of Worcester, it appears that the chance of the cions inserted in grafting living is much increased by dipping the upper end of the cion in wax, or covering it with a film so as to prevent evaporation.—We have tried the same method with cions, and with cuttings, and think it worthy of adoption.

Small Birds.—In a Report made to the Legislature of Massachusetts, at the Session before the last by the Rev. Mr. Peabody, he remarks, that "to exterminate birds which do a little harm occasionally, is to protect ourselves from a small evil at the expense of a greater, and in fact securing the fruit at the expense of the tree. Means may be devised to prevent the ravages of birds, but none have yet been discovered to prevent the ravages of insects. The birds guard our fields, and gardens from the insect; and if they, now and then, taste of the fruit which they have preserved, we can better afford a share to them, than the whole to their creeping enemy. To give some idea of the service which birds are able to render, Mr. Peabody notices the computation of Wilson, according to which, a red winged blackbird devours on an average fifty grubs a day—a pair of them, in four months, will consume more than twelve thousand—and allowing a million pair of black-birds to New England, (which is but a moderate estimate) they will destroy twelve thousand millions of the grub. He also notices the statement of Kalm that after some States had paid three pence a dozen for the destruction of blackbirds, the consequence was a total loss in the year 1749, of all the grass and grain, by means of insects which had flourished under the protection of the law allowing bounties on birds."

Important Facts with regard to the Milk Sickness.—A highly intelligent gentleman, formerly of this city, and now a resident of Illinois, who has spent much time in the portions of that State which are subject to the milk sickness, has communicated to us one or two important facts respecting that remarkable and formidable disease, which were new to us, and may be to most of our readers. He states that an acquaintance of his, who

has lived in the milk sickness region for many years, early adopted the practice of salting his cattle regularly every day, and observed that while his neighbors' cattle were affected with the disease his own invariably escaped. This course he pursued for several years with the same result; but at length, becoming careless, and neglecting to salt his cattle regularly, some of them were seized with the sickness. He immediately returned to his former promptness in giving them regularly every morning as much salt as they would eat, and since that time has not been troubled with the milk sickness among his stock. Hence he concludes that salting cattle regularly every day is an effectual protection against that disease.

It is well known that the flesh of cattle affected with the milk sickness will prove fatal when eaten fresh. The gentleman first referred to states that the salted beef made from the same animals may be, and is, eaten with impunity.—*Louisville Journal.*

Woburn and Berkshire Pigs.

The great matter of deciding which is the best breed of hogs for the farmer is the question. Dr. Martin, an extensive breeder of Ky., takes the ground that Woburn hogs crossed upon a large breed of English white hogs (he calls Berkshires) are superior to all others, and not being well acquainted with the Doctor's hogs, but knowing something of the Berkshires, am decidedly of the opinion I have seen nothing as yet which can equal them. For some year or two past the Dr. has manifested a desire to feed pigs for a given time, against others, to test their growing and fattening qualities, and as no one else would accept this offer, I was induced to do so last autumn, more from a desire to encourage such tests, than from any hope my pigs would be larger than his at any age. No one acquainted with the Berkshires, has been so inconsiderate as to suppose they were equal to some other breeds in point of size; and this sentiment I expressed about twelve months ago in the Agriculturist. The old Berkshires were too large even for English breeders, and they have been many years endeavoring to reduce the size by crossing with the Siamese hog, and they have succeeded in producing the much famed black Berkshires of the country. But to the pigs. The Dr. has almost doubled me in weights, but the matter will explain itself by giving the circumstances. It perhaps will be interesting to see the description, pedigrees and weights of all the pigs.

A description of Bernice and Bertha.

They are both (very much the color of their mother) black and white spotted, and their feet, noses, and ends of their tails white—noses have small specks of black on them. *Bernice*—the white extends from her nose, up her forehead to her neck; both years mostly black; her *right ear* has white on fore part, half way up which passes down (rather distinct) to her forehead; *left ear* with a little white on back part of it.

Bertha has a streak of black extending (a little arched) from one eye to the other. The front part of both ears white.

The description above *has their distinguishing marks*, and is more like the Woburn than white Berkshire, the lighter pigs of this litter all having been sold. I hope to be able in the spring to save for my own use some of my white boar's pigs that are entirely white.

They were pigged 18th September, 1840, and were got by (*my white Berkshire boar*) *Albion*, d. Courtnay by (*my Woburn boar*) *Belmont*, g. d. Courtesan by (*Mr. Jackson's Woburn boar*) *Matchless*, g. g. d. my old premium sow by (*Woburn boar*) Superior, g. g. g. d. my old *Woburn sow Pennsylvania.*

Samuel D. Martin.

The annexed will show the weights when the pigs were six months old.

Mr. Fanning:—*Dear Sir*,—Since I last wrote I have again weighed by pigs. On the 22d of March, Bernice weighed 254 lbs., Bertha 232 lbs. At four months old Bernice weighed 116 lbs. Bertha 108½ lbs. At *five* months old Bernice 185, Bertha 174. At six months old, Bernice 254 lbs., Bertha 232 lbs.

The 21st March would have been 60 days from the time I commenced feeding; but as it was the Sabbath, I would not weigh them until Monday 22d. So we should deduct 3 lbs. per day (the average of the last five days) for Bernice, and 2 lbs. for Bertha. S. D. Martin.

Certainly the Doctor is mistaken when he says his pigs weighed 254 and 232 on the 22d of March, the day they were six months old, for the certificate says they were pigged Sept. the 18th. Allmitting that Bernice gained 3 lbs. per day, and deduct four days from her weight and 2 lbs. from the other, the former would be 242 and the latter 224; but be this as it may, the weights are enormous, and I doubt if they are surpassed soon.

Description of Sally B. and Black Rose.

Sally B. is a black with white face, all four of the feet white, white tip to the tail, and half of one ear white. Black Rose, is black with white face, four white feet, white tip to the tail, and a few small white spots about the neck and sides.

Sally B. at 2 months old weighed 30 lbs.; at 3 months 50 lbs.; at 4 months 74 lbs.; at 5 months 100 lbs.; and at 6 months 145 lbs.—Black Rose at 6 months old, weighed 136 lbs.

They were both by my young imported Berkshire boar Earl Spencer, dam the imported Berkshire sow Mary. Black Rose was not fed with the expectation of being weighed but was sold to Mr. Jones of Rutherford, and taken from the sow at five weeks old, in November, but as I could not fill all my engagements without parting with the pig I first selected, I could not do better than to weigh Mr. J's.

As I have said the circumstances would explain the reasons the Doctor's pigs were so much heavier than mine, it may be proper here to notice some of the advantages he had.

1st. I never doubted the large English Yorkshire hogs were bigger frames than the improved Berkshires, and neither have I ever imagined the Berkshires were as large a breed as the Bedfords or Woburns. The Berkshires cannot boast of the largest size, but of the perfection of form. Their neat heads and ears, round bodies, straight, broad backs, and deep hams, are perhaps not surpassed in the world.

2d. The pigs I weighed were the first litter of the sow and the first pigs by the boar; and neither, according to the certificates, was exceeding 12 months old when the pigs came, and a month or two was lost in growth by their passage from England to Tennessee.

They will never be the largest of Berkshires, but both are over the medium size of this breed. Indeed they are all as big as I could ask hogs for my own use, and the pigs are the largest Berkshires of this vicinity of their age, but not equal to friend Martin's in weight.

3d. Circumstances were such, that I could not give my personal attention to them; and the matter being entirely in the hands of a servant, under my instruction, they were evidently neglected.

It was my wish to ascertain the quantity of food consumed, but my time being imperiously called to other matters, I regret that I have no conjectures on the subject. Sally B., which remained at home all the time, ran at large with other pigs, but was occasionally separated from them to eat, and then turned out again. Occasionally she was fed with boiled corn, but sometimes with unboiled corn; frequently she got the scraps and crumbs from the kitchen, but most generally she was fed on scalded meal with a little salt in it.

Black Rose was fed by Mr. Jones, and received kind attention, but the exact treatment I am unable to state.

From every thing here noted, it is obvious if the pigs were all equal in their growing and fattening properties, there has been no test of any breed, as the Doctor's were mixed bloods, and we know not which consumed most food, or received best attention. It is reasonable to suppose, however, if all had been fed as much as they could have eaten, Doctor Martin's pigs would have weighed more than mine at any age, but whether they would on the same quantity and quality of food, and same attention, is still a matter of dubiety.

It is not yet known how often, what sort, and how much the Doctor has fed his pigs per day, but I hope he will specify the particulars for our next.

Fearing that friends of the Berkshires may think I have not done this excellent breed of swine justice, I propose that gentlemen who have the leisure to give personal attention, will feed spring pigs, and report success. Dr. Martin will feed pigs of the different varieties in his possession, and any one who knows the least of his character, cannot doubt his willingness to feed and weigh against any breed of the country. I am determined myself to persevere in feeding to test the qualities of the various brag varieties, but at present I cannot name any. I have been at much trouble and expense in obtaining Berkshires, Chinas, Woburns and Irish Graziers, and they are not all in my possession yet, but without some miserable luck, I shall have them in a few days, and I hope to be able, before a great while, to report on the merits and demirits of the different kinds of swine more fully than any man in the Union. At least, I have an ambition of this sort, and I see nothing to prevent success. I am wedded to no swinish breed, and every important fact I may ascertain, shall be given to the public.

Will Dr. Martin, and others in different parts of the United States, inform us what kinds of pigs they intend to feed for testing the qualities of the various breeds, the age, &c.?

No agricultural subject can be more important, and better calculated to improve the stock of the country; and at the same time there is an agreeable excitement in it, more than paramount to all the trouble. Any one who is not willing for the merit of his hogs to be known, should not be recognized as a brother amongst the liberal minded farmers of the country. T. Fanning.

Ten. Agriculturist.

Doneraile, Sumner Co., Ten., May, 1841.

Gentlemen:—You will please inform Mr. Fanning that it will be out of my power to let him have an Irish Grazier pig as I expected. They have all died but three. They were all taken with the *Thumps* and it soon destroyed them. I have given to those that are alive, two doses of calomel each, and I think two of them if not all three will recover. I believe calomel the best medicine for pigs that have the thumps, that I have ever known tried.

Mr. Fanning wished me to inform him what crosses of my imported hogs did best; this is hard to do, so far as I can yet discover. I have a parcel of pigs that are ¾ Berkshire and ¼ Irish Grazier, and a parcel that are ¾ Irish Grazier and ¼ Berkshire, about 33 days old, all pigged on the same day. Several good judges have looked at them, some say one cross are best and some say the others; as for myself, I could not say which are best, but they are very large and likely, and I think much better than any other crosses that I have seen; the fact is, they are very near if not quite as fine as my pure blooded Berkshire or Graziers. I have procured a Woburn boar to cross on my sows for my fall pigs, as I consider the Woburn a farmer's hog, and have no doubt but frequent crosses on the right kind of animals will still improve our stock. Then why not try the project without sending so much money to England every time we want to get a fresh cross.

Yours, respectfully, W. C. Huffman.

Remarks.—We like friend Huffman's notion well, to make fine crosses and breeds of hogs for ourselves. We have the means, if we would breed with judgment. Indeed, we possess every variety of hog from the best to the meanest in the world, and if we do succeed in growing stock, it will be our own fault. Let every farmer tell the diseases of his stock, his remedies and what breeds he is trying, and we will have an abundance of news for our readers.—*Ten. Agricul.*

The Big Head in the Horse.—It is quite strange that the big head is not mentioned by Lawrence or Yowat or any other English work on the horse. Neither is it known in the Northern States, and rarely do we see it at this day in Tennessee. It most usually attacks horses of the South which run at large and get their living pretty much from the woods. We have noticed it more frequently in new countries than elsewhere, and without attempting to tell positively its cause, it is certainly true that it is rarely found but in new countries. In Alabama and Mississippi we have seen as many as three horses in a "gang" of ten with the big head.

The disease is a bony enlargement about half way between the eyes and nose. Often its attacks are on the under jaw, causing the bone to enlarge very much. The effects are weak loins, loss of strength and action in the limbs, the creature becomes hidebound, eats with difficulty, and frequently the attack terminates fatally. Occasionally, however, a horse will "breathe," (that is, neither live nor die,) for many years with the disease.

Remedy.—We recollect one case in which a permanent cure was effected by removing the skin from the enlargement and burning with a hot iron. But we have seen other cases of longer continuance in which this remedy would do no good. It is said the disease is caused by small blind teeth, if so, the removal of the teeth, with the simple remedy of bathing the head with spirits of turpen-

tine, will effect a cure. If it is not checked in a few months, the bone may be eaten out with the most corroding substances—burning or boring we have known resorted to, but all without success.

Will some of our readers in the farther Southwest inform us if the disease is of as frequent occurrence now as formerly, and if there has been a sovereign remedy found?—*Southern Agriculturist.*

Management of Cows after Calving.

From Youatt's Treatise on Cattle—pages 544 and 5:

"*Attention after Calving.*—Parturition having been accomplished, the cow should be left quietly with the calf; the licking and cleaning of which, and the eating of the placenta, if it is soon discharged, will employ and amuse her. It is a cruel thing to separate the mother from the young so soon; the cow will pine, and will be deprived of that medicine which nature designed for her in the moisture which hangs about the calf, and even in the placenta itself; and the calf will lose that gentle friction and motion which helps to give it the immediate use of all its limbs, and which in the language of Mr. Berry, "increases the languid circulation of the blood, and produces a genial warmth in the half exhausted and chilled little animal." A warm mash should be put before her, and warm gruel, or water from which some of the coldness had been taken off. Two or three hours afterwards, it will be prudent to give an aperient drink consisting of a pound of Epsom salts and two drachms of ginger. This may tend to prevent milk fever and garget in the udder. Attention should likewise be paid to the state of the udder. If the teats are sore, and the bag generally hard and tender, she should be gently but carefully milked three or four times every day. The natural and the effectual preventive of this, however, is to let the calf suck her at least three times in the day if it is tied up in the cow-house, or to run with her in the pasture, and take the teats when it pleases. The tendency to inflammation of the udder is much diminished by the calf frequently sucking; or should the cow be feverish, nothing soothes or quiets her so much as the presence of the little one.

"*The Cleansing.*—The placenta, or *after-birth*, or cleansing, should be discharged soon after the calving. It soon begins to act upon the uterus as a foreign body, producing irritation and fever; it likewise rapidly becomes putrid and noisome, and if it is then retained long, it is either an indication of a weakly state of the cow, or it may produce a certain degree of low fever that will interfere with her condition. Every cowleech therefore, has his cleansing drink ready to administer; but it is too often composed of stimulating and injurious drugs, and which lay the foundation for after diseases. The aperient drink recommended to be given after calving, with the addition of half a pint of good ale to it, will be the best assistant in this case and the only thing that should be allowed.

"Should the cleansing continue to be retained, some have recommended that a weight of six or eight ounces should be tied to the cord, the gentle and continual action of which will usually separate the placenta from its adhesions, without any risk of hemorrage; but if the afterbirth should still remain in the womb, and decomposition should evidently commence, the hand must be introduced into the passage, and the separation accomplished as gently as possible.

"There is, however, a great deal more fear about this retention of the after-birth than there needs to be, and it is only the actual appearance of inconvenience or disease resulting from it, that would justify a mechanical attempt to extricate it."

HOUSEWIFE'S DEPARTMENT.

Can she Spin.

This question was asked by King James 1st when a young girl was presented to him, and the person who introduced her boasted of her proficiency in the ancient languages. "I can assure your Majesty," said he, "that she can both speak and write Latin, Greek and Hebrew." "These are rare attainments for a damsel," said James, "but pray tell me, can she spin?"

Many of the young ladies of the present day can boast of their skill in the fine arts and polite accomplishments, in music, painting dancing, but can they spin? or what is more appropriate to the times and the modern improvements in labor-saving machinery, it may be asked, can they perform the domestic duties of a wife? do they understand the management of household affairs? Are they capable of superintending in a judicious, prudent and economical manner, the concerns of a family?

A young lady may be learned in the ancient and modern languages, may have made extraordinary proficiency in every branch of literature; this is all very well, and very creditable, and to a certain class of the community, who are not obliged, as was St. Paul, "to labor with their own hands," is all that is absolutely requisite, but to a much larger portion of the community, it is of far greater consequence to know whether they can spin?

It is of more importance to a young mechanic, or a merchant, or one of any other class of people who depend upon their own industry and exertions, if he marries a wife, to have one who knows how to spin or perform other domestic duties, than one whose knowledge does not extend beyond a proficiency in literature and the fine arts.

It has often been said that the times are strangely altered; and certain it is that the people are. It was once thought honorable to be conatantly employed in some useful avocation; but now-a-days it is thought more honorable to be idle. People complain of the high prices of the necessaries of life, and with much truth. But if the amount of idleness could be calculated accurately throughout the community, allowing the drones half price for their services, which they might perform, and which others ars paid for, it might be a safe calculation to estimate it equal to all that is expended for provisions and marketing in the United States. So it is not a little inconsistent to hear parents complain about the price of provisions, while they bring up their daughters to walk the streets and expend money.

Let the fair daughters of our country imitate the industrious matrons of the past. The companions of those who fought in the Revolution were inured to hardships, and accustomed to necessary toil, and thus did they educate their daughters. Health, contentment, and plenty smiled around the family altar.—The damsel who understood most thoroughly and economically the management of domestic affairs, and was not afraid to put her hands into the wash-tub, or to "lay hold of the distaff," for fear of destroying their elasticity, and dimming their snowy whiteness, was sought by the young men of those days as a fit companion for life, but in modern times to learn the mysteries of the household would make our fair ones faint away; and to labor comes not into the code of modern gentility.

Industry and frugality will lead to cheerfulness and contentment, and a contented wife tends greatly to soften the asperities and smooth the rough paths in a man's journey through life. It has been truly said, a pleasant and cheerful wife is a rainbow in the sky, when the husband's mind is tossed with stormes and tempests; but a dissatisfied and a fretful wife, in the hour of trouble, is like a thunder cloud, charged with electric fluid.—*Boston Transcript.*

BALTIMORE MARKET.

Centre Market.—The recent warm weather and refreshing rains have had the effect of supplying our markets abundantly with vegetables. Saturday morning the Centre Market exhibited a profusion of the usual varieties, of meats, vegetables and fruits.—Butter, print, 25 to 37½ cents; do roll 18½ to 25; Chickens. pair, 37½ to 75 cts; Veal, per qr. from wagons 75 cts. to $1,25; Mutton, do. 50 cts; Lamb. do. 37½ cts; Roasting Pigs, 62½ to 75 cts; Eggs, per doz. 12½ cts; Green Peas, peck, 31½ to 37½, abundant; Potatoes, peck, new, 75 to $1 do. old, 25 to31½; Apples, peck. 37½ to 50; do. dried, 50; Peaches, dried, 50 to 62½; Beets. 25; Asparagus, bunch, 10 to 18½; Lettuce, bunch, 2 to 3; Radishes, 2 to 3; Onions, 2 to 3; Collards, peck, 18½ to 25; Cabbages, new, 6½ to 10 cents per head; Strawberries, 12½ to 37½ cents per quart, abundant; Currants, do. 8 to 10; Gooseberries, do. 10; Cherries, do. 10 to 12½. Butcher's Meats—Beef, choice pieces, lb. 12½ cts; do coarse, 5a6; do. corned, 8a10; do. dried, 12½; tongues, smoked 50 a 56½; Mutton, round, 6a8; Veal, 10a12; Pork, fresh, 7a8; do. corned, 8a9; Hams, 10a12½; do. cut, 14; Joles, 5a6; Lard, 9a 10; Sausages, 9a10; do. dried, 9a10. Wheat Flour, per 100 lbs. $3,00; Corn Meal, $1,50. The Fish market was fairly supplied with the usual varieties of fresh and salted descriptions, at previous rates; Crabs plenty at 25 cents per dozen; Snappers, 25 to 62½ cents each.

Fuel.—Oak Wood is retailing at $4 to $4,50 per cord, and Pine at $3 to $3,50. Anthracite Coal, broken and screened, for family use, $9 per ton of 2240 lbs.

Cattle.—The offerings of Beef Cattle at the drove yards on Monday, amounted to about 120 head, but the full supply of the preceding week prevented operations to any extent. Sales of about 60 head have been made since at prices ranging from $7 for inferior to $8 per 100 lbs. for prime quality, showing a decline of about 50 cts. per 100 lbs. since this day week. Live Hogs have been plenty and dull at $4,75 per 100 lbs. at which price they are now offering.

Fish.—Shad have been in active demand at improved rates. Considerable sales of North Carolina trimmed No. 1 have been made at $8 per bbl.—Sales of Susquehanna trimmed No. 1 at the same price. Herrings have also improved, and large sales were made during the week at $2,75 per bbl. cash. The inspections of the week comprize 437 bbls. and 13 half bbls. Shad, and 2056 bbls. Herrings.

Molasses.—At auction to-day 59 casks Port Rico were sold at 25a27 cents.

Salt.—We note a sale of a cargo of 9,000 bushels Turks Island at 25 cents per bushel.

Sugars.—At auction to-day three cargoes of Porto Rico were offered, and sold as follows; 105 hhds. Lebanon's cargo, at $6,80a$7,25; 141 hhds. Gallant Mary's cargo, at $6,40a $8. and 110 hhds. Nonpareil's cargo, 73 hhds. sold, at $7,40a $7,60. At auction to-day, 145 hhds. New Orleans were sold at $6,15a$6,80.

Tobacco.—The inspections of the week, it will be seen, are large. There has been a very fair demand for Maryland Tobacco during the week, and sales to a considerable extent have been made. In consequence of the late unfavorable accounts from Europe, shippers refused to buy, except at a reduction, and the sales generally were made at an average decline of about 25 cents per 100 lbs. on the rates of last week. We continue oui quotations which embrace the range of the sales, viz: inferior and common $4a4,50; middling to good $5a7,50; good $8a8,50; and fine $9a13. We note a sale of Kentucky of fair quality, for export, at $8. Ohio has not been much inquired for, but as holders are not willing to sell under former rates, the sales, which will reach about 150 hhds. have been made within our quotations, viz: common to middling $5; good $5,50a$6,50; fine red and wrappery $8a12; prime yellow at $7,50a10; and extra wrappery $15a17. The inspections of the week comprise 1344 hhds. Maryland; 295 hhds. Ohio; 43 hhds. Kentucky, and 10 hhds. Virginia—total 1692 hhds.

Flour.—The stock of Howard Street Flour continues very light, and the market has been quite inactive both on Saturday and to-day. The last sales that we are advised of worth naming took place on Friday from stores at $5,18¾ for good standard brands. The market is now unsettled, with a tendency to decline, but in the absence of sales to-day we are unable to give a definite quotation. The wagon price is also unsettled.

City Mills Flour is held at $5,25—no sales. Susquehanna Flour is also held at $5,25—no transactions.

Grain.—Sales of good to best Pennsylvania red Wheats to-day at 110a112 cents, and one parcel of white and red mixed, at 114 cents. A parcel of prime Md. red wheat was sold to-day at 1,12 cents.

The market for Corn is not so firm this afternoon. Buyers will not give 57 cents for either white or yellow Md.

We quote Md. Rye at at 58a60 cents. Last sales of Penna. at 60a63 cents. We quote Md. Oats at 39a 40 cents.

Provisions.—We are not advised of sales of barrel meat, and the prices continue as last quoted, viz: Baltimore Packed Mess Beef at $12,56; No. 1 at $9,50, and Prime at $8. Mess and Prime Pork cntinue unfixed in price and without sales. Some transactions have taken place to-day in assorted western Bacon of prime quality at 6 cents. We continue to quote Sides of the same quality at 6 cents; Shoulders at 5 cts; and Hams at 6½ to 9½ cents, as in quality; and Baltimore cured Hams at 10 cents. We are not advised of any sales of Lard, and continue to quote No. 1 Western in kegs at 8 cents.

At Richmond, on Friday, City Mills Flour was quoted at $6, and country at $3,62½; Wheat 60 to 105 cents, millers ceased buying; Corn 50 cents, and in demand for retailing; Oats in demand at 35 cents. Cotton 10a11 cts. The Tobacco market had given way, and all descriptions, except lugs were a shade lower. Cattle on the hoof, $5a7 per 100 lbs.

At Fredericksburg, on Friday, family Flour, from stores, was held at $5,50 to $6; mountain do. $4,60 to $5,25; lowland do. $4,50 to $4,52; Wheat 90 to 95 cts; Corn 55 to 60; Oats 30 to 33.

Philadelphia, May 29.—The supplies of Flour yet continue limited, and in consequence some further advance is looked for; this morning 3000 bbls were sold at $5, but most holders now demand $5,25 for Penna. and Brandywine. Grain—Early in the week sales were made of red Penna. Wheat at 105c; whits 109c; to-day, sales of red do. at 110c. afloat and $1,12½ from store in small parcels to millers; Southern Wheat is in demand at 98a100c. per bushel, receipts continue very light. Penna. Rye 60c; Southern do. 52c. per bu. Corn—Considerable sales of yellow Corn, afloat, have been made at 57½a58, and white 55c. Oats—Sales 7 or 8000 bu. at 37½c. but prices have a downward tendency. Cattle—295 Beef Cattle offered; sales $5½a7½; extra $8.

New York, May 29.—Cotton—Sales of the week 5000 bales at steady prices; Upland and Florida at 9a11; Mobile at 9½a11; N. Orleans at 9a12. 350 bbls Howard street flour sold at $5,25, and all Southern may be quoted $5a$5,25. Brandywine meal $14 cash, a 14,754 mos. for puncheons, 3a $3,12 for bbls.

At Columbia, S. C. on 25th May, the news per Caledonia so unsettled the market as to preclude fixing price cotton.

DEVON STOCK.

For sale, 4 Devon Heifers, 2 years old—6 do. from 1 to 2 years old—which will be sold very low.

Also—4 pair STEERS, also full bred Devon, 3 to 6 years old, at 60 to $100 per pair.

Also a half Durham Bull, 1 year old in April, large size, sired by Beltzhoover's imported bull and out of a cow celebrated for her dairy qualities, having generally made hur 10 lbs. butter a week when fresh, and gave during last summer on grass 23 qts. of milk per day. Price $35.

Also, 10 pairs full bred Bakewell (spring) Lambs, at $25 a pair.

HOGS—Also several full bred Berkshire SOWS, 8 to 10 months old, and several BOARS of same age—also pairs of Pigs of same breed at 6 to 10 weeks old.

Also, a ¢ Irish Grazier & ½ white Berkshire Boar.

Also, a ½ Berkshire & ½ China Boar, 15 mos. old, $18.

Also, full bred China Pigs, 8 weeks old.

Also, 4 prs ½ Mackay and ½ Berkshire Pigs, 6 to 8 weeks old.

Also, ½ Berkshire & ½ China do. do.

Also, a pair still left from a half sister of the celebrated Barrow exhibited at Washington in March last, out of an English sow.

Also, Woburn and White Berkshire Pigs, &c.

Also 2 Boars a cross of the white and black Berkshire, 5 months old, price $10 each.

☞The subscriber can now supply almost any order for Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, &c. as well as Seeds, Plants, Trees, Agricultural Implements, &c. Address, post paid, je 2 S. SANDS.

FOR SALE,

Two FILLIES, one rising two years, the other one year.—The first is a grey, the other a bay. Also, a Colt about three months old, a beautiful bay with a spot in his forehead. The following is the pedigree of the two first:

Dam, DAIRY MAID, was got by Zahara out of Fanny Fairmaid. Zahara, dapple grey, foaled 8th April, 1839, by Thornton's Rattler—his dam by Winter's Arabian, grand dam, Alexandria, (half sister to Lady Lightfoot) by the imported Alexander, g. g. dam Taylor's famous Black Maria. See Turf Register, vol. 3, p. 586.

FANNY FAIRMAID, ch. m. foalded 15th May, 1827, was got by Reb Roy.—Her dam, Fairmaid, bred by Gov. Sprigg, of Maryland, was got by First Consul; her grandam, Jane Lowndes, by Thomton's imported Driver, (he by Lord Egremont's Driver) her g. g. d. Modesty, by Hall's Union; her g. g. g. d. by Galloway's Selim, her g. g. g. g. d. imported mare from the Duke of Hamilton's stock by Spot; her g. g. g. g. g. d. by Cartouch; her g. g. g. g. g. g. d. by Sidburgh; her g. g. g g. g. g. g. d. by old Traveller, and her g. g. g. g. g. g. g. g. d. by Childers, out of a Barb mare. See Turf Register, vol. 3, p. 586

The Fillies are by the celebrated imported horse John Bull; the Colt is out of the same mare by the famous horse *Captain*.—For terms and farther particulars apply to SAML SANDS,
ma 26 Office of the American Farmer.

IMPLEMEMTS AND SEEDS.

ROBERT SINCLAIR, Jr. & Co., No. 60, LIGHT STREET,
OFFERS FOR SALE,

Ploughs: 20 sorts—embracing every useful variety and form of mould-board—prices varying from $3 to $15 each;

Plough and machine castings, at reduced prices;

Cultivators for Corn, Tobacco, Cotton, expanding and stationary;

Wheat Fanning Mills, made on Rices' and other improved plans;

Straw Cutters, 5 kinds, among which are the cylindrical, which stands unrivaled in this country for cutting corn, fodder, straw, &c.;

Corn Mills, 3 sizes, for grinding corn meal and chopping rye for horse feed;

Corn and Cob Crushers, Baldwin's patent. This is the only crusher that is yet in successful use in this country,—price $65;

Corn Husker and Sheller, Goldsborough's patent—warrented to husk and shell 700 bushels of corn per day, or shell, after the husk has been taken off, 1200 bushels—an A. 1 machine;

Corn Shellers—several kinds for hand and horse power;

Vegetable Cutters—$5 a $20 each;

Centrifugal Disseminators, for spreading lime, &c.;

Grindstones hung on friction rollers ready for use;

Revolving Horse-Rakes, made with hickory teeth, and on the most approved plan;

Threshing Machines, made on the spike principle, and the same that have given such general satisfaction for the last three years;

Horse Powers, on the planetary and horizontal plan. The latter, like the threshing machines, stand unrivaled for strength, power & durability;

Harrows, made on the most approved American and English plan;

Drill and Sowing Machines, for hand or horse power, among which is a machine of late invention, (price $15) for planting corn, beets, turnips, &c.—made very simple, and performs admirably;

Ox Yokes and Bows, on the Yankee plan, and greatly superior to those in common use;

Rollers for gardens and fields, made with iron, stone and wood;

Scythes, with hangings, complete;

Scythe Sheathes, common and patent—the latter is a recent and valuable invention;

Grain Cradles, with warranted scythes attached;

Agricultural tools, embracing forks, shovels, rakes, trace chains, plough harness, axes, hay knives, grubbing hoes, bull rings, &c.

Garden and pruning tools—a large and general assortment;

Garden hand plough.—Those who cultivate vegetables extensively should loose no time in procuring this valuable labor saving implement.

Books on agriculture and management of stock;

Trees and plants supplied at the shortest notice;

Garden seeds. The garden seed department is conducted to a great extent at this establishment. Seeds of the finest quality can be furnished which are principally raised under the inspection of the proprietors who spare no trouble nor expense in keeping seeds which will produce vegetables of the finest quality.

Field seeds, embracing common American and various new European sorts.

Priced Catalogues, with the above description of machinery, time of planting seed, &c. furnished gratis. may 19

FOR SALE,

Three yearling Heifers and one yearling Bull,—they are ¼ Ayrshire by an imported full bred bull, out of excellent country cows. —Price $20 each. Also, a yearling Heifer, ¼ Durham, $20. Also, a 7-8 Berkshire and 1-8 Byfield Boar, 18 months old—price $20. Also, full bred black spotted Berkshire Boars, 6 to 9 months old—price $15 to $25, very fine animals. Also, a beautiful Pointer Slut, 12 months old, ready to be broken—price $20. Apply to
ma 26 SAML. SANDS.

CHOICE FRUIT TREES.

The advertiser offers for sale an assortment of choice fruit trees, principally pears and apples. These trees were imported from France in 1839, as standard trees for a nursery of select fruit. The greater part are in blossom. Purchasers can make their selection no and remove the trees in the fall, and may expect fruit the ensuing season. The trees can be seen adjoining Mount Pleasant, 2¼ miles Falls Road —Apply to SAML. SANDS.

HARVEST TOOLS.

J. S. EASTMAN, in Pratt near Hanover street, has on hand the real Waldron Grain and Grass Scythes; also American Grass Scythes that are warranted, and returnable if not good; superior Pennsylvania made Grain Cradles; a prime lot of Grass Sneeds at wholesale or retail; 400 Connecticut made Hay Rakes, equal to any ever offered in this market, at wholesale or retail; a prime article of cast-steel Hay and Manure Forks, also Hoes for garden use, and Elwell's best English made field Hoes, together with a general assortment of Agricultural Implements, such as Ploughs of all kinds, Harrows, Cultivators for Corn and Tobacco, Wheat Fans, at various prices, a superior article; Horse-power Threshing Machines—Farm Carts, with lime spreading machinery attached—a large quantity of Plough Castings constantly on hand, for sale at retail or by the ton—Machine Castings and machinery, made in the best manner and at short notice—likewise repairs, &c. &c. On hand several different Corn Planters, that have a good reputation.

N. B. Always on hand, Landreth's superior Garden Seeds, at retail. ma 26. J. S. EASTMAN.

SUGAR BEET.

The subscriber has 800 lbs SILESIAN SUGAR BEET, selected in Europe in person by the late lamented Mr. Ronaldson, of Philadelphia, to insure a pure and superior article for our farmers. As it is sold to close a concern, it will be put at the reduced price of 25 cts. per pound (about one half the usual wholesale price) to dealers and others taking 50 pounds and upwards. Orders, post paid, enclosing the cash, to be addressed to S. SANDS.

DEVON STOCK.

A gentleman of this city, having a number of Durham, Devon and other Cattle, and his arrangements not enabling him to keep them separate, will sell his Devon Bull, a Devon Cow with a fine heifer calf by her side, and a 3-4 Devon Cow, by a fine Devon bull of the best stock, out of a half Durham and half Devon Cow which was one of the best milkers known here, yielding her 30 quarts per day, whose dam was sold to Col. Williams of South Carolina for $150. The owner for reason above assigned, is anxious to sell, and will dispose of the Bull, two Cows and Calf for $200, or in proportion for any part of them. The bull and cows are about 3 years old. For further particulars apply to SAML. SANDS.

☞Who has for sale a variety of other Devon, Durham, Ayrshire and other Stock—Also a variety of Berkshires, Woburns and other Hogs, large and small, which will be sold bargains. m 19

JOHN T. DURDING, *Agricultural Implement Manufacturer, Grant and Ellicott street near Pratt st. in the rear of Messrs Dinsmore & Kyle's, Baltimore,*

Anxious to render satisfaction to his friends and the public, has prepared a stock of Implements in his line, manufactured by experienced workmen, with materials selected with care; among them,

Rice's Improved Wheat Fan, said to be the best in use, and highly approved of at the recent Fair at Ellicott's Mills,	$25
Straw Cutters, from	$5 to 20
Corn Shellers, hand or horse power,	13 to 25
Thrashing Machines with horse powers, warranted, and well attended in putting up,	$150
Corn and Cob Mills, new pattern.	

The Wiley Plough, Beach's do, Chenoweth's do, New York do, self sharpening do, hill-side do of 2 sizes, left hand Ploughs of various sizes, Harrows, hinge or plain; Cultivators, expanding or plain, 4 sizes; Wheat Cradles, Grass Scythes hung, &c.

☞Castings for machinery or ploughs, wholesale or retail; Hames' Singletrees, and a general assortment of Tools for farm or garden purposes, all of which will be sold on the most pleasing terms to suit purchasers. oc 14

BERKSHIRES & IRISH GRAZIER PIGS.

The subscriber will receive orders for his spring litters of pure Berkshire Pigs bred from stock selected of C. N. Bement & John Lossing, esqs. of Albany, N.Y. and importations from England; also for Irish Grazier (or improved Ulster) Pigs bred from the celebrated stock of Mr. Murdock of Ireland. Also for crosses of Berkshire & Irish Grazier and the Black & white Berkshire. Price, same as at Albany for pure Berkshire & above crosses, $20 per pair; for Irish Graziers $25 per pair, with the addition of $1 for Cage, deliverable in or shipped at the port of Baltimore.

Address, post paid. JOHN P. E. STANLEY,

LIME, LIME.

The subscribers inform the public that they are now prepared to receive orders for any reasonable quantity of first quality Oyster Shell Lime, deliverable at their kilns on the farm of Capt. John C. Jones, Lower Cedar Point, or on any of the navigable waters of the Potomac, on very accommodating terms. Having been engaged for the last ten years in the Lime burning business entirely for Agricultural purposes in Pennsylvania, we would not think it necessary to say one word in favor of it as a manure, within its limits, it being well established; but being now located where perhaps it may be called by some an experiment, we refer to the Reports of Mr. Ducatel, Geologist for this state, to the Legislature.

DOWNING & WOOD, Cedar Point, Milton Hill P. O.
ja 13 6m* Charles Co. Md.

HUSSEY'S CORN SHELLER AND HUSKER.

The subscriber respectfully informs the public that he is now engaged in manufacturing these celebrated machines; they are now so well known that it is not deemed necessary here to enlarge on their merits further than to say, that the ordinary work is 40 bushels of shelled corn per hour, from corn in the husk, and one hundred bushels per hour when it is previously husked. Abundant testimony to the truth of this can be given if required, as well as of the perfect manner in which the work is done. His machine could be made to do double this amount of work, but it would be necessarily expensive and unwieldy, besides, experience has often shown that a machine of any kind may be rendered comparatively valueless by any attempt to make it do too much, this therefore, is not intended to put the corn in the BAG, but to be exactly what the farmer requires at the low price of 35 dollars.

The subscriber also informs the public, that he continues to manufacture Ploughs of every variety, and more particularly his patent self sharpening plough, which is in many places taking the place of ploughs of every other kind. He also manufactures Martineau's Iron Horse Power, which for beauty, compactness and durability, has never been surpassed. The subscriber being the proprietor of the patent right for Maryland, Delaware, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia, these horse powers cannot be legally sold by any other person within the said district.

Threshing Machines, Wheat Fans, Cultivators, Harrows and the common hand Corn Sheller constantly on hand, and for sale at the lowest prices.

Agricultural Implements of any peculiar model made to order at the shorest notice.

Castings for all kinds of ploughs, constantly on hand by the pound or ton. A liberal discount will be made to country merchants who purchase to sell again.

Mr. Hussey manufactures his reaping machines at this establishment. R. B. CHENOWETH,
corner of Front & Ploughman sts. near Baltimore st. Bridge, or No. 20, Pratt street. Baltimore, mar 31, 1841

PLOUGHS! PLOUGHS!! PLOUGHS!!!

A. G. & N. U. MOTT,

Corner of Ensor and Forrest-streets, O. T., near the Belle-Air Market,

BEING the only Agents for this State, are now manufacturing the celebrated WILEY'S PATENT DOUBLE POINTED CAST PLOUGH, of the New York Composition Castings, which is pronounced by some of the most eminent and experienced farmers in the country, to be the best which they have ever used, not only as regards the ease and facility with which it turns the sod, it being nearly one draught lighter than ploughs of the ordinary kind, but also for its economical qualities; for with this plough the Farmer is his own Blacksmith. Every farmer who has an eye to his own interest, would find that interest promoted by calling and examining for himself. We also make to order, other ploughs of various kinds, CULTIVATORS, CORN SHELLERS, GRAIN CRADLES, STRAW CUTTERS, RICE'S IMPROVED WHEAT FAN, &c., &c. Thankful for past favors, we shall endeavor to merit a continuance of the same. ma 3 13t

LIME—LIME.

The subscribers are prepared to furnish any quantity of Oyster Shell or Stone Lime of a very superior quality at short notice at their Kilns at Spring Garden, near the foot of Eutaw street, Baltimore, and upon as good terms as can be had at any other establishment in the State.

They invite the attention of farmers and those interested in the use of the article, and would be pleased to communicate any information either verbally or by letter. The Kilns being situated immediately upon the water, vessels can be loaded very expeditiously. N.B. Wood received in payment at market price.
ap 22. 3m E. J. COOPER & Co.

LIME FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

The subscribers have erected kilns for burning Lime on the farm of Minchin Lloyd, Esq at the mouth of Pickawaxen Creek, on the Potomac, and are now prepared to furnish farmers and planters with the article, of a superior quality for the above purposes, at the low price of ten cents per bushel, delivered on board vessels; and there will be no detention to the vessels receiving the same. All orders will be punctually attended to, addressed to *Milton Hill Post Office, Charles county, Md.*
april 7—6m* LLOYD & DOWNING.

HUSSEY'S REAPING MACHINE.

The subscriber continues to manufacture his Reaping Machine in Baltimore. He has been enabled by the experience of another year to make several important improvements, which will add greatly to its durability, and render it still more manageable in the hands of inexperienced persons.

Those persons who intend to procure machines for the next harvest, are requested to apply early, as the supply will be limited to the probable demand. The demand at the last harvest, as at the harvest previous, could not be supplied, although the manufacture had been more than doubled. The same reasons which operated to limit the supply last year (the uncertainty of the crop) still operate —yet from the settled conviction of the great utility of the machine, which very generally prevails amongst the farmers of Maryland, where the machine is best known, an increased number will be made this year. The machine is warranted to equal the highest recommendations which has ever been given to it with any shadow of reason.

He has also resumed the manufacture of his highly approved Corn Sheller and Husking machine, which had been for a time relinquished to other hands. Its merits are too well known in Maryland to need a remark farther than to say, that those now made by the subscriber are greatly improved with a cylinder presenting a solid iron surface instead of segments, besides several important additions. He has also lately constructed an implement on a new plan to cut beets and turnips for cattle feed, with the necessary despatch—price $10. OBED HUSSEY.
feb 10. tf